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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHUL #0055 0090704
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
P 090704Z JAN 08
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8000
INFO RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 3698
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1502
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 8611
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0971
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 2179
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1586
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0817
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0596
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 3833
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0102
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1934
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHN/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

S E C R E T SEOUL 000055

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/09/2018
TAGS: PREL PARM MNUC MARR KS CH
SUBJECT: ROKG TO CONTINUE PRESSURE ON CHINA REGARDING ASAT
TEST

REF: A. SECSTATE 1265
1B. 07 SEOUL 210

Classified By: A/DCM Patrick Linehan, Reasons 1.4 (b,d).

11. (S) On January 8, A/DCM delivered reftel A demarche and nonpaper to Song Young-wan, Director General of the International Organizations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT). Song thanked the A/DCM for sharing the planned demarche to China and reiterated the ROKG's concern about China's Anti-Satellite (ASAT) test and frustration about the Chinese Government's failure to adequately respond to international inquiries. Song explained that the ROKG had raised the ASAT test with the Chinese government on numerous occasions since January 2007. Song said that he demarched the Chinese Embassy in Seoul immediately after learning of the test from the U.S. (reported reftel B), at which time the Chinese Foreign Ministry appeared completely unaware of the test. Song also raised the ASAT test at an annual nonproliferation meeting between the two countries in May 2007, when the Chinese Foreign Ministry had a prepared response, insisting the test was in accordance with international norms and that the debris was minimal and posed no significant threat to the satellites of other countries. Song agreed that the Chinese response to international concerns to date had been inadequate and promised the ROKG would continue to press the Chinese Government on the issue.

VERSHBOW